

## **RESPONSE AND REMARKS**

Claims 6, 12, and 18 have been cancelled; Claims 1-5, 7-11, and 13-17 have been amended to more distinctly claim the claimed invention. Entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the remarks below are respectfully requested.

### **CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)**

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-18 as being anticipated by Koenck et al. (U.S Patent No. 6,006,100; "*Koenck*") under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e).

### **REMARKS REGARDING THE SECTION 102(e) REJECTION**

The Examiner's rejections under Section 102(e) have been carefully considered. Claims 6, 12, and 18 have been cancelled; Claims 1-5, 7-11, and 13-17 have been amended to more distinctly claim the claimed invention. For the reasons given below, it is respectfully submitted that *Koenck* does not disclose or suggest, nor do any of the other references of record disclose or suggest, all of the limitations of amended independent Claims 1, 7 and 13, or the respective claims dependent on them.

### **Amended Independent Claim 1**

Amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a shipping management computer system that is programmed to:

receive a first digital scale configuration input from a first user, via a first remote user client computer device of a plurality of remote client computer devices, regarding a first digital scale configured with the first remote user client computer device, wherein the first digital scale configuration input comprises at least one item of scale configuration information that is selected from a group consisting of: (A) a make of the

digital scale, (B) a model of the digital scale, and (C) a type of port through which the digital scale communicates with the first remote user client computer device, and wherein each remote user client computer device of the plurality of remote user client computer devices accesses the shipping management computer system via a communications network;

receive an indication from the first user via the first remote user client computer device that the first digital scale will be used to measure a first weight of a first parcel;

send an instruction to the first digital scale, via the first remote user client computer device, to measure the first weight of the first parcel; and

receive, via the first remote user client computer device, the first weight measured by the first digital scale.

It is respectfully asserted that the prior art references cited by the Examiner do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of amended independent Claim 1. One advantage of a shipping management computer system according to various embodiments of the system claimed in amended Claim 1 is that such embodiments allow a user of such a shipping management computer system to use a digital scale configured with the user's remote client computer device to measure a weight of a parcel, so that, e.g., that weight can be used by the shipping management computer system to calculate a shipping rate (see, e.g., Claim 3).

**Amended Independent Claim 7**

Amended Independent Claim 7 is directed to a method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers comprising:

receiving an input from a first user, via a first remote user client computer device, said input comprising: (A) a make of a digital scale

configured with the first remote user client computer device, (B) a model of the digital scale, and (C) a type of port through which the digital scale communicates with the first remote user client computer device;

receiving an indication from the first user via the first remote user client computer device that the digital scale configured with the first remote user client computer device will be used to measure a weight of a parcel;

sending a request to the digital scale to measure the weight of the parcel;

receiving a stream of data from the digital scale; and

translating the stream of data into a set of scale communication information according to the make and model of the digital scale, wherein the set of scale communication information comprises the weight measured by the digital scale.

It is respectfully asserted that the prior art references cited by the Examiner do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of amended independent Claim 7. One advantage of a method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers according to various embodiments of the method claimed in amended Claim 7 is that such embodiments allow a user of a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, such as a shipping management computer system accessible via the Internet, to use a digital scale of a particular make and model configured with the user's remote client computer device via a particular type of port to measure a weight of a parcel, so that, e.g., that weight can be used by the computer system to calculate a shipping rate (see, e.g., Claim 8).

**Amended Independent Claim 13**

Amended independent Claim 13 is directed to a computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers, said computer program product comprising computer executable instructions to, for each particular one of a plurality of remote user client computer devices:

(A) receive, via said particular remote user client computer device, an indication from a particular user associated with the particular remote user client computer device that a digital scale configured with the particular remote user client computer device will be used to measure a weight of a particular parcel, wherein said digital scale is of a particular make and model, and wherein said digital scale is configured with the remote user client computer device via a particular type of port; and

(B) send, via a global communications network, instructions to the particular remote user client computer device to:

- (1) receive a weight of a particular parcel as measured by the digital scale; and
- (2) communicate the weight of the particular parcel to the shipping management computer system.

It is respectfully asserted that the prior art references cited by the Examiner do not teach or suggest all of the limitations of amended independent Claim 13. One advantage of a computer program product according to various embodiments of the computer program product claimed in amended Claim 13 is that such embodiments allow a user of a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, such as a shipping management computer system accessible via the Internet, to use a digital scale configured with the user's client computer device to measure a weight of a parcel, so that, e.g., that weight can


be used by the shipping management system to calculate a shipping rate (see, e.g., Claim 15).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments, and for the foregoing reasons and authorities, Applicant respectfully submits that the invention disclosed and claimed in the present application, as amended, is not fairly taught by any of the references of record, taken either alone or in combination, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the application as reflected in the previously submitted substitute specification and as amended herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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